



Idaho Milk Production Up 9.3 Percent

IN THIS ISSUE:

Milk Production
 Red Meat Production
 Cattle on Feed
 Cold Storage
 Farm Labor

Idaho milk production during October 2003 totaled 752 million pounds, a 9.3 percent increase from the same month last year, and up 17 million pounds from September 2003. Production for September 2003 totaled 735 million pounds, a 2 million pound decrease from the preliminary estimate, but 8.4 percent above September 2002. Average milk production per cow in October 2003 was 1,820 pounds, 60 pounds more than October 2002, and 40 pounds above September 2003. The average number of milk cows during October was 413,000 head, the same as the revised September 2003 estimate and 22,000 head more than October 2002.

Nationally, October milk production in the 20 major States totaled 12.0 billion pounds, down 0.2 percent from production in these same States in October 2002. September revised production, at 11.6 billion pounds, was down 5 million pounds from September 2002. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,550 pounds for October 2003, 11 pounds above October 2002. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.72 million head, 70,000 head less than October 2002, and 25,000 head less than September 2003.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, October 2002-2003

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2003 As Percent of 2002
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	150	150	1,750	1,790	263	269	102
California	1,664	1,702	1,760	1,710	2,929	2,910	99
Florida	147	140	1,110	1,080	163	151	93
IDAHO	391	413	1,760	1,820	688	752	109
Illinois	115	108	1,430	1,450	164	157	96
Indiana	147	144	1,435	1,490	211	215	102
Iowa	208	198	1,480	1,520	308	301	98
Kentucky	120	110	1,025	1,025	123	113	92
Michigan	300	297	1,650	1,690	495	502	101
Minnesota	480	465	1,390	1,425	667	663	99
Missouri	136	126	1,120	1,200	152	151	99
New Mexico	305	318	1,750	1,745	534	555	104
New York	676	665	1,485	1,455	1,004	968	96
Ohio	262	259	1,410	1,420	369	368	100
Pennsylvania	591	562	1,495	1,455	884	818	93
Texas	310	311	1,350	1,450	419	451	108
Vermont	153	147	1,425	1,450	218	213	98
Virginia	119	110	1,260	1,225	150	135	90
Washington	247	244	1,870	1,885	462	460	100
Wisconsin	1,268	1,250	1,410	1,450	1,788	1,813	101
20 STATE TOTAL	7,789	7,719	1,539	1,550	11,991	11,965	100

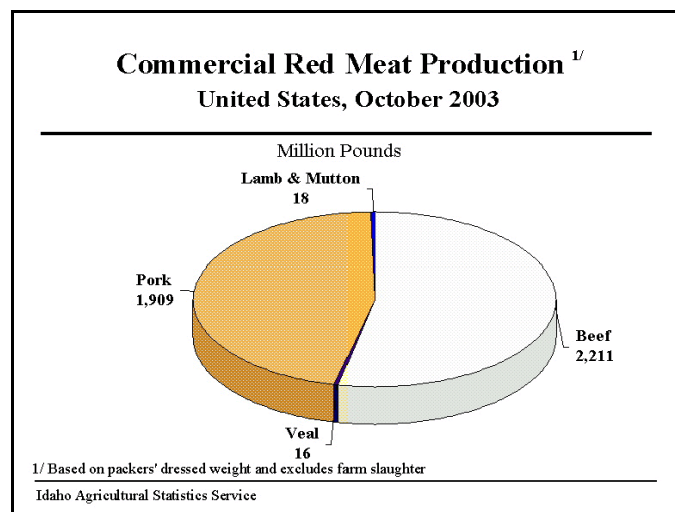
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Idaho Red Meat Production Down 20 Percent

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for October 2003 totaled 47.9 million pounds, down 20 percent from last year. October production was down 1 percent from September's 48.3 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January-October 2003 period totaled 491 million pounds, down 6 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Red meat production for the United States totaled 4.15 billion pounds in October, down 5 percent from the 4.38 billion pounds produced in October 2002. Beef production, at 2.21 billion pounds, was 12 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.00 million head, down 8 percent from October 2002. The average live weight was down 39 pounds from the previous year, at 1,231 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.91 billion pounds, a record monthly high and up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.64 million head, 3 percent above October 2002. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 267 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 18.0 million pounds, was down 9 percent from October 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 265,500 head, 12 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 3 pounds from October a year ago.

January-October red meat production was 39.1 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb & mutton was down 9 percent.



Commercial Red Meat Production, Selected States and United States^{1/}

State	October 2002	September 2003	October 2003	October 2003 As Percent Of ^{2/}	
				October 2002	September 2003
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
California	126.4	120.8	127.4	101	105
Colorado	197.3	165.4	155.7	79	94
IDAHO	59.8	48.3	47.9	80	99
Illinois	260.3	*210.3	233.4	90	111
Iowa	578.9	561.2	615.2	106	110
Kansas	537.0	497.3	478.2	89	96
Minnesota	212.8	198.0	220.0	103	111
Montana	1.6	1.3	1.5	96	119
Nebraska	711.9	638.4	616.8	87	97
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	106	114
Oklahoma	90.9	83.6	92.8	102	111
Oregon	3.8	3.6	3.5	93	98
South Dakota	90.5	75.2	88.6	98	118
Texas	450.3	441.8	407.4	90	92
Utah	45.3	40.9	36.8	81	90
Washington	59.6	50.3	54.7	92	109
Wyoming	0.2	0.6	0.2	95	37
UNITED STATES	4,382.1	*4007.7	4,154.0	95	104

* Revised. 1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. 2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.

Idaho Cattle on Feed Unchanged

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on November 1, 2003 totaled 295,000 head, the same as the November 1, 2002 inventory. The inventory was up 9 percent from the number on hand October 1, 2003.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during October totaled 88,000 head, up 11,000 from October 2002 placements. Marketings during October totaled 60,000 head, down 1,000 from the October 2002 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled

11.0 million head on November 1, 2003. The inventory was 3 percent above November 1, 2002 but 7 percent below November 1, 2001. Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.78 million, 16 percent above 2002 and 3 percent above 2001. Net placements were 2.68 million.

During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 1,023,000, 600-699 pounds were 796,000, 700-799 pounds were 508,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 454,000. Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.86 million, 6 percent below 2002 and 2 percent below 2001. Other disappearance totaled 101,000 during October, 20 percent above 2002 and 49 percent above 2001.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000 + Capacity Feedlots^{1/}

State	November 1, 2002	October 1, 2003	November 1, 2003		
			Number	As % of 2002	As % of October
		---1,000 Head---		---Percent---	
Arizona	290	275	278	96	101
California	490	485	495	101	102
Colorado	1,060	950	1,050	99	111
Idaho	295	270	295	100	109
Iowa	335	310	350	104	113
Kansas	2,300	2,300	2,430	106	106
Nebraska	2,110	1,830	2,140	101	117
New Mexico	117	123	118	101	96
Oklahoma	340	350	350	103	100
South Dakota	170	145	177	104	122
Texas	2,730	2,720	2,840	104	104
Washington	185	190	195	105	103
Other States	320	265	320	100	121
United States	10,742	10,213	11,038	103	108

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

Frozen Potato Stocks

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on October 31, 2003, totaled 974 million pounds, an increase of 9 percent from September 9, 2003 and down 2 percent from October 31, 2002. Other frozen potatoes, at 280 million pounds, increased 8 percent from September stocks, and increased 9 percent from last year.

United States stocks of butter on October 31, 2003, totaled 162 million pounds, down 22 percent from the end of the previous month, and 2 percent less than October 31, 2002. Of this 162 million pounds, the government owned 11.1 million pounds. Stocks of American cheese totaled 489 million pounds, down 5 percent from September 30, and down 3 percent from last year. The government owned 9.47 million pounds, 2 percent of the total cheese stocks.

Commodity	Oct. 31, 2002	Sept. 30, 2003	Oct. 31, 2003	2003 2002
	1,000 Pounds			Percent
POTATOES				
French Fries	994,421	895,402	974,352	98
Other Frozen	257,736	258,271	280,178	109
Total	1,252,157	1,153,673	1,254,530	100
DAIRY				
Butter	164,640	207,175	161,857	98
(Gov't Owned)	1,844	10,172	11,084	601
Natural Cheese				
American, Total	501,401	516,616	488,582	97
(Gov't Owned)	927	8,836	9,473	1,022

October Farm Labor

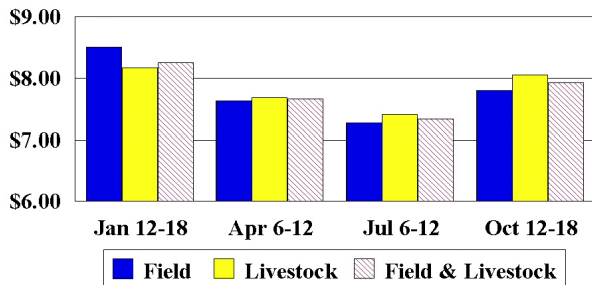
For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 33,000 hired workers on farms and ranches the week of October 12-18, 2003, up 6 percent from the 31,000 workers the week of July 6-12, 2003. Hired workers worked an average of 45.0 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$8.24 per hour, up 11 cents from last year.

There were 1,197,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of October 12-18, 2003, down 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 891,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 306,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$9.05 per hour during the October 2003 reference week, up 10 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.42 per hour, up 8 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$8.64 per hour compared with \$8.42 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.47 per hour, was up 11 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.2 hours for hired workers during the survey week, compared with 40.4 hours a year ago.

WAGE RATES BY TYPE OF WORKER
2003 Mountain Region 1/

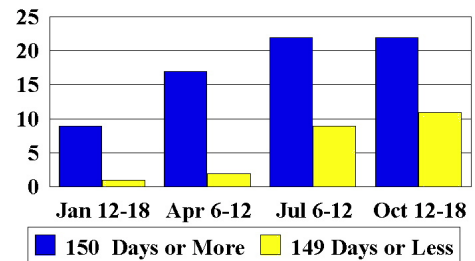
Dollars per Hour



1/ Idaho, Montana, Wyoming
Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service

WORKERS ON FARMS
2003 Mountain Region 1/

Thousand Workers



1/ Idaho, Montana, Wyoming
Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service